

Atty. Docket No.: CA1400
PATENT APPLICATION

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No.: 10/684,296

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 22-27, 29-33, and 35-56 are all the claims pending in the application.

Applicants acknowledge with thanks the Examiner's indication that claims 1, 2, 22-27, 29-31 and 51-56 are allowed if amended to overcome the objection set forth in the subject office action. Claims 1 and 30 to remove the parenthesis. Accordingly, it is believed that claims 1, 2, 22-27, 29-31 and 51-56 are now ready for issuance. However, Applicants note that the amendments to claims 1 and 30 are not made for the purpose of patentability inasmuch as the scope of the claims has not been changed. Rather, the language from inside the parenthesis has been introduced outside the parenthesis without making any changes in the scope of the claims.

Applicants acknowledge with thanks the Examiner's indication that claims 35 and 44 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The limitations of claim 35 have been incorporated into claim 32, thereby making claim 32 allowable. Consequently, claims 33 and 36-43, which depend from claim 32, are now allowable as well. Claim 44 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of claim 32, thereby making claim 44 allowable. Additionally, allowable claim 35 has been amended to depend from allowable claim 44 as rewritten in independent form.

Claims 32, 33, 36-43 and 45-50 stand rejected as unpatentable over Fay in view of Kay. With respect to claims 32, 33, and 36-43, the amendments to claim 32 discussed in the preceding paragraph make this rejection moot. With respect to claims 45-50, claim 45 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 44, which was previously indicated to be allowable.

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Accordingly, claim 45 is now allowable. Consequently, claims 46-50, which depend from claim 45 are now allowable as well.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

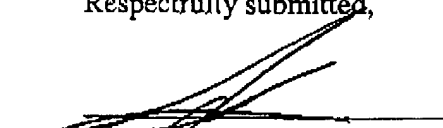
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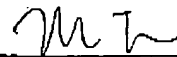
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 13, 2006


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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office this 13th day of March, 2006.



Mariann Tam